
REPORT CONCERNING INDIANS IN UTAH.

REPORT OF AGENT FOR UINTA AND OURAY AGENCY.

UINTA AND OURAY AGENCY,
Whiterocks, Utah, July 30, 1902.

SIR: I have the honor herewith to submit my fourth annual report of the affairs of this agency.

Location.—Our nearest railroad station is Price, Utah, which is 110 miles from the Uinta Agency, where the agent resides and has his office. The Ouray Agency is 35 miles and the Ouray school is 20 miles southeast of the Uinta Agency. The Uinta school is near the Uinta Agency. The road to the railroad is very bad, but the roads on the reservation are fairly good.

The census taken June 30, 1902, shows the following number of Indians:

Uinta Ute, Uinta Agency:

Males over 18 years	163
Females over 18 years	122
Males 6 to 18 years	54
Females 6 to 18 years	43
Males under 6 years	38
Females under 6 years	47

White River Ute, Uinta Agency:

Males over 18 years	109
Females over 18 years	91
Males 6 to 18 years	47
Females 6 to 18 years	51
Males under 6 years	25
Females under 6 years	25

Uncompahgre Ute, Ouray Agency:

Males over 18 years	287
Females over 18 years	264
Males 6 to 18 years	87
Females 6 to 18 years	94
Males under 6 years	32
Females under 6 years	31

White River Ute, Ouray Agency:

Males over 18 years	7
Females over 18 years	5
Males 6 to 18 years	2
Females 6 to 18 years	3

This is a consolidated agency. A clerk is in charge at the Ouray Agency.

There are three bands of the Ute under my charge as agent, viz, the Uinta, White River, and the Uncompahgre. They are all quiet, peaceable Indians. There are a few of the White River Indians that would like to make trouble, and they would do so if it were not for the fear of the result. But I am happy to say there are only about fifteen or twenty of them.

The Indians still continue to improve in their farming, and more of them every year want to have farms assigned to them. I assign farms to the Indians and they improve them. Of course it is the understanding that when the Indians are finally allotted these lands will be allotted to the Indians that improved them. The Indians have a good market for everything they raise on account of Fort Du Chesne being located in the center of the farming district of the reservation. It is very difficult to get the Indians to save their seed for the next year. I will next spring ask your Department to spend \$6,000 of their proceeds of labor money for the purpose of purchasing seed wheat, oats, alfalfa, and potatoes.

The Indians would be much more benefited if the Department would order that all the proceeds of labor money should be used in improving farms; and give them the money only in return for work, even if you had to hire them to improve their own farms and pay them with their own money.

I have taken the names of a large number of Indians from the ration roll, and will reduce it more as soon as school begins. I will endeavor to make every able-bodied Indian work for all he gets except the annuity and proceeds of labor money, which I am compelled to pay him. I make three cash payments a year to the Indians.

The buildings at Uinta Agency and the Uinta and Ouray schools are in fairly good condition, the buildings at Ouray Agency, with a few exceptions, are entirely worthless. I have recommended a number of times that the agency be moved to the Ouray school. All the progressive Indians that belong to that agency live nearer to the school than they do to the agency.

The Uinta Agency and school should have waterworks. The buildings are in much danger of fire, and with a very little expense a system could be put in that would protect them. We have plenty of water, and with a fall of over 100 feet to the mile, the expense would not be great.

I think I have about broken up the liquor traffic among the Indians. We only had two trials for that offense last year. One man went to the penitentiary; the other one was indicted by the United States grand jury, but in the trial the jury cleared him.

There are two schools on this reservation, viz, the Uinta and the Ouray. These Indians are very much opposed to the schools, and it is very difficult to get them to send their children to school; in fact, there are a large number of them that can only be put in school by force. I have coaxed and threatened ever since I have been here. I have discharged Indian employees, for refusing, and have withheld all favors from Indians who refused to place their children in school. But I am firmly convinced that nothing but force will reach a number of them.

I don't think the reservation schools do as much good as the nonreservation schools do. It is very difficult to keep them from talking their own language. And during vacation they go back to their camps, and when they come back to school in the fall they seem to have forgotten much that they learned the year before.

As you have positions of superintendents of the two schools, I recommend that the agency physicians be put in charge as acting superintendents. They have plenty of time to attend to this in addition to their other work.

Irrigation.—We have not endeavored to open up any new ditches the last two years, but have simply kept the old ones in good repair. The old ditches furnish water enough for the number of Indians that are now farming, but within a year or two some new ditches will have to be made. A large number of these Indians

understand using water on land as well as white men, and more are learning every year, and we have such an abundance of water that there is very little complaint of some of them taking more than they are entitled to.

Rations and hair cutting.—I have persuaded quite a number of Indians to have their hair cut and to discard the blankets, but I find it very difficult to persuade them to be married like white people. Medicine men and superstition still have a strong hold on them, but I am doing all I can to break their influence.

On my recommendation you reduced the beef and flour contract 25 per cent, which gave me \$4,558 in money to hire the Indians to do work. I am very much pleased with this plan, as now no Indian has any excuse to be hungry; when they tell me they are hungry I always have some work ready for them.

Another improvement in the last year was to stop the weekly issue of rations and only issue once a month. The Indians now have more time to work and don't spend most of their time in traveling to and from the agency after rations.

Colorado land.—The Indians feel very badly that Congress will not pay them for their Colorado land that has been put into forest reserves, and that the Interior Department will not permit them to employ an attorney to present their claims to Congress. Their claim is certainly a very just one and should be paid.

Health of the Indians.—The Indians have had very good health the last year. There has been very little sickness among them. There was considerable smallpox among the whites all around the reservation, but by maintaining a strict quarantine not an Indian took the disease. The Indians are strong believers in vaccination, and that probably helped us in keeping the smallpox out.

Recommendation.—The Ouray subagency should be moved to the Ouray School; the Ouray School should be abandoned and consolidated with the Uinta School. The Ute Indians should be paid for their Colorado land.

I take this occasion to thank the Department for the kind treatment I have received from them during the last five years.

Very respectfully,

H. P. MYTON,
United States Indian Agent.

The COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS.

REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT OF UINTA SCHOOL.

UINTA SCHOOL, *Whiterocks, Utah, July 1, 1902.*

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following annual report of the Uinta School for the fiscal year 1902:

Satisfactory progress has been made in the family system of industrial work for girls, instituted by Supervisor A. O. Wright last year. The boys have received instruction in farming and the care of live stock. This work, however, has been hindered by frequent changes of industrial teachers.

The schoolroom work has not been so satisfactory as last year, owing to the fact that one teacher has had to do all grades of class work. During the latter part of the year, owing to the death of Supt. E. O. Hughes, the teacher has had all the work of the superintendent, in addition to his regular duties.

Estelle Reel, superintendent of Indian schools, in speaking of another school, said: "I am convinced that force is the only method to be pursued in order to uplift these people." The same remark applies to the Ute. As was said by Superintendent Hughes in his report last year, "For the sake of these savages it is to be hoped that those higher in authority will soon realize this fact and act accordingly." The attitude of the older Indians toward the school is one of animosity. Everything that can possibly be charged to the detriment of the school is brought up, and every effort is made to keep the children out of school. The medicine man is one of the greatest enemies of the school and should be suppressed.

No repairs have been made on the buildings this year, but, under authorities that have been granted, a large amount of work will be done this summer, and we hope to have the plant in pretty good condition by the time school opens in the fall.

Respectfully,

JAMES W. REYNOLDS, *Acting Superintendent.*

The COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS.

(Through H. P. Myton, United States Indian Agent.)

REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT OF OURAY SCHOOL.

LELAND, UTAH, *July 30, 1902.*

SIR: I have the honor to submit my fourth annual report of the Ouray Boarding School.

The attendance of the past year shows a decrease of 8 from the previous year.

During the past ten years four different agents and four different superintendents have tried to fill the school, but have failed. It is the same fight year after year, from September until June, to secure and retain a corporal's guard of pupils. This condition will continue until a more determined policy is adopted in dealing with these Indians.

With few exceptions the health of the pupils has been good. One pupil, discharged on account of poor health, has died since the close of school.